

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 1 to 8.

With regard to the Examiner's comments concerning an Information Disclosure Statement, the references not considered by the Examiner are submitted herewith with a new Information Disclosure Statement.

With regard to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and 103(a) over Yudasaka et al., it will be noted that this reference was not received by the reference journal (Chemical Physics Letters) in final form until April 3, 2003 and presumably was not published until a later date. On the other hand, the present application is entitled to the benefit of its International filing date of April 1, 2003.

Moreover, applicants are entitled to the benefit of their Japanese priority application 2003-000718 with a filing date of January 6, 2003.

As can be seen from the enclosed English translation, this priority application supports the present claims in all essential respects.

Accordingly, the rejection on prior art is untenable and should be withdrawn.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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